

Message Text

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ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 /027 W

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R 261652Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5113

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

UNCLAS LONDON 14906

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, KU

SUBJ: KUWAITI VISAS FOR U.S.C.

REF: KUWAIT 3893

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER CALLED IN PERSON ON CONSUL AL MAJED AT KUWAITI EMBASSY TO CLARIFY U.S. VISA PROCEDURES. CONVERSATION RESULTED IN ELIMINATION OF LETTER REQUIREMENT BY KUWAITI EMBASSY FOR U.S. CITIZENS AND THEIR CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR VISA PROCEDURES.

2. EMBASSY CONOFF EXPLAINED ONLY TIME SOMETHING IN WRITING IS REQUIRED FROM KUWAITI EMBASSY IS FOR OFFICIAL, DIPLOMATIC AND GOVERNMENT STUDENT VISAS. ALSO THAT A-2 OFFICIAL STUDENT VISAS ARE EXCEPTIONAL COURTESY. AL MAJED THEN AGREED TO DROP HIS REQUIREMENT THAT U.S. CITIZENS OBTAIN AMEMBASSY LETTERS.

3. AL MAJED WAS ASSURED THAT APPLICATIONS FOR OFFICIAL AND DIPLOMATIC VISAS WOULD NORMALLY BE

SAME DAY. ALL OTHERS INCLUDING TRANSIENTS SHOULD EXPECT A MINIMUM 72 HOUR DELAY.

4. THE A-2 STUDENT VISA HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF CONSTANT UNCLASSIFIED

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FRICTION AND MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THIS EMBASSY

AND THE KUWAITI EMBASSY. SINCE IT IS APPARENT THAT
WE MUST CONTINUE TO ISSUE A-2 VISAS TO KUWAITI
GOVERNMENT STUDENTS, THE CONOFF PROPOSED TO AL MAJED

THAT INSTEAD OF U.S. EMBASSY OBTAINING CONFIRMATION
OF STUDENT'S STATUS THAT HIS EMBASSY COMMUNICATE
WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) AND OBTAIN
CONFIRMATION. WHEN THE CONFIRMATION IS RECEIVED
THE KUWAITI EMBASSY WOULD SEND US A NOTE STATING
(A) HIS EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED CONFIRMATION FROM THE
MFA THAT THE APPLICANT IS A RECIPIENT OF A GOVERNMENT
SCHOLARSHIP (B) WILL STUDY AT A NAMED SCHOOL AND
(C) INTENDS TO RETURN TO KUWAIT WHEN STUDIES COMPLETED.
ON THE BASIS OF THIS NOTE WE WILL ISSUE A-2 VISA
WITHOUT REFERRING CASE TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT.

5. AL MAJED SAW NO PROBLEM OBTAINING CONFIRMATION
FROM THE MFA ON INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS AND INDICATED
THAT THIS WOULD RESOLVE A TROUBLESOME PROBLEM FOR
HIM. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD REPORT FULL
CONVERSATION TO HIS MFA.

6. EMBASSY WOULD WELCOME ANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE
ARRANGEMENT MADE WITH THE KUWAITI EMBASSY ON A-2

GOVERNMENT STUDENTS.

RICHARDSON

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